

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/713,995

Examiner

Thomas J. Mullen, Jr.

Applicant(s)

RAU ET AL.

Art Unit

2632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 8/1/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1, line 8, "vehicle" has been changed to --additional information--.

Claim 1, line 13, "the information on" has been changed to --stored information related to--.

Claim 1, line 14, "image" has been changed to --additional information--.

Claim 1, line 18, before "information" has been inserted --the stored--.

Claim 1, line 22, "or a" has been changed to --or that a--.

Claim 9, line 2, "a description" has been changed to --an image--.

Claim 10, line 10, "stolen" has been deleted.

Claim 10, line 11, before "associated" has been inserted --with stored--.

Claim 11, line 8, after "number" has been inserted --from the identified license plate area--.

Claim 15, line 2, both occurrences of "plates" have been changed to --plate numbers--.

Claim 15, line 4, after "plate" has been inserted --number--.

Claim 17, line 4, after "plate" has been inserted --number--.

Claim 17, last line, "plates" has been changed to --plate numbers--.

Claim 18, line 2, both occurrences of "plates" have been changed to --plate numbers--.

Claim 19, line 3, "make, model and" has been changed to

--make and model of the vehicle, and--.

Claim 20, line 7, "vehicle" has been changed to --additional information--.

Claim 20, line 12, "the information on" has been changed to --stored information related to--.

Claim 20, line 13, "image" has been changed to --additional information--.

Claim 20, line 17, before "information" has been inserted --the stored--.

Claim 20, line 22, "or a" has been changed to --or that a--.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Nathan Rau on 9/16/05.

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2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: regarding the previous rejections based on Anderson et al (US 6433706) and Gerber (US 5568406) and applicant's arguments in response thereto, it is agreed with applicant that Anderson et al teaches away from "obtaining additional information" by the teaching of eliminating or ignoring characters or character sequences other than the license plate number, and that Gerber et al does not use the cameras (9,10) to obtain the "additional information" related to the vehicle (i.e., besides the license plate number) "from the captured image".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

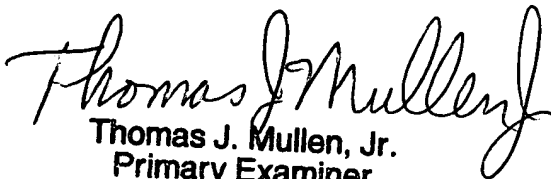
Bakewell (US 6894717) and Pederson (US 2004/199785) are cited to further show the state of the art.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas J. Mullen, Jr. whose telephone number is 571-272-2965. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30 AM to 4 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu, can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.

TJM


Thomas J. Mullen, Jr.
Primary Examiner
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